PROJECT TITLE

DESERT MANAGERS GROUP VISITOR CENTER AT VALLEY WELLS SAFETY ROADSIDE REST AREA 08-SBd 15 160.8/161.5 (PM) EA 08-0A6410

Insert Location Map Below:



Project Location: In San Bernardino County at Valley Wells Safety Roadside Rest Area

Co/Rte/KP/PM: SBd- 15 PM 160.8 to 161.5

Project Description:

In San Bernardino County on Interstate 15 about 40 kilometers (25 Miles) south of the California/Nevada State line at Valley Wells Safety Roadside Rest Area (SRRA)

Project Scope:

Upgrade aesthetic elements through the use of inert materials & develop CA Welcome Center.

Existing Funding: IIP: \$0

RIP: \$0 Other: \$0

Future Funding Need: \$0

Total Estimated Cost: \$1.183,000

Project Schedule: Supplemental PR 10/04 RTL 5/05 CCA 5/06

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Purpose:

In response to the Directors Policy regarding the Departments Implementation of "Context Sensitive Design Solutions", this request for TE funding proposes to augment and add elements not normally associated with standard facilities incorporated into safety roadside rest areas. These items include office space for a California Welcome Center (to be operated by others) adjacent to the southbound side of Interstate 15. interior interpretive display facilities and exterior interpretive display facilities at both north and southbound sites. Southbound I-15 at Valley Wells Safety Roadside Rest Area is the first impression motorists traveling from Nevada and beyond have of California along this route. The location of this site offers an ideal opportunity to educate the traveling public on significant cultural, historical, recreational, environmental and transportational aspects of the Mojave Desert region. As a result of this opportunity, the "Desert Managers Group" a consortium of government agencies, including the Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service. U.S.

Forestry Service, San Bernardino County Parks & Recreation and Caltrans have engaged in achieve this partnering to endeavor. Funding from this TE application will be applied toward construction of the Welcome Center and primarily, transportation related displays. The theme for the Caltrans portion will be "Mojave Desert Transportation, Past and Present", from early Native Americans to the California Settlers to Southern Pacific Railroad System to Historic Route 66 and finally, the present day Interstate 15. Funding for the remaining items of cultural, historical, recreational and environmental interpretative displays including all construction drawings will be primarily provided by the remaining agencies of the Desert Managers Group. Caltrans will fund construction of all required structures needed to house these displays. The addition of these items will reinforce a context sensitive design solution to this desert region and assure that transportation solutions meet more than primary transportation objectives. The California Welcome Center will be maintained by Others.